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New animal genus named in honor of UM zoology professor

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11/12/71
state + cs +NEW ANIMAL GENUS NAMED IN HONOR OF
UM ZOOLOGY PROFESSOR

MISSOULA--

Brunsonia complexipes, a new genus listed in the May 1971 issue of "Northwest Science," has been named in honor of a University of Montana zoology professor, Dr. Royal Bruce Brunson.

The naming brings to five the total number of animals listed in Dr. Brunson's honor. Brunsonia ^{complexipes} L in layman's terms, is a type of millipede, a small, multi-legged animal.

This is the first time a genus was named in Dr. Brunson's honor. The species bearing his name include two types of water mites and two types of snails.

The genus and species were included in a report on "The Ecology, Distribution, and Taxonomy of the Millipedes of Montana West of the Continental Divide" by H. F. Loomis and Rupert Schmitt.

Schmitt is a former graduate student in zoology at UM who studied under Dr. Brunson. Schmitt is now an instructor at Skagit Valley College, Mt. Vernon, Washington.

"The report names 17 new species, two new genera, 1 new sub-family and 1 new family of millipedes," Dr. Brunson said.

Dr. Brunson is a recognized authority on gastrotricha, a major group of aquatic animals. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, in 1938, and his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1945 and 1947 respectively. He is the author of numerous articles on invertebrates and water biology.

Concerning the naming of the classification, Dr. Brunson said, "The honor reflects credit on the whole department---it is a sign of excellence in the zoology field."

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